

based on Wight's collection from Kondaparthi and Beddome's collection from Cuddapah. The present collection is the first report from the State.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We sincerely thank the UGC for financial assistance, the Chief Wildlife Warden and Field Director for permission to do the field work, Dr. R. Gopalan, Systematic Botanist, Botanical Survey of India, Southern Circle, Coimbatore and Dr. V. Chelladurai, Research Officer, Siddha

Medical College for identification and critical comments on this paper.

April 22, 2000

V.S. MANICKAM
V. SUNDARESAN
C. MURUGAN
G.J. JOTHI

*Centre for Biodiversity and Biotechnology,
Department of Botany,
St. Xavier's College
Palayamkottai 627 002,
Tamil Nadu, India.*

REFERENCE

HENRY, A.N., G.R. KUMARI & V. CHITHRA (1987): Flora of Tamil Nadu, India. I: Analysis. Vol. 2. BSI, Coimbatore.

35. OCCURRENCE OF *HABENARIA LONGICORNICULATA* GRAH.
FAMILY ORCHIDACEAE IN MOUNT ABU WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, RAJASTHAN

On September 15, 1999, I was leading a group of trainees of nature guide service in the Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan. While moving on the Kodra Trail, I observed a single plant of *Habenaria longicorniculata* under bushes of *Lantana camara*. The plant was growing in a crevice of a small rock. It was nearly 80 cm long, having 6 subradical alternate, elliptic leaves. Its long scape bore three developing fruits at the apex. Dried petals were still present on the tips of the developing fruit. Each fruit had a long spur (c. 10-12 cm) still intact. The proximal part of the spur was narrow and semi-dried, while the distal part was club-shaped and green.

According to Mehta (1979), two species of genus *Habenaria*, namely *H. digitata* and *H. marginata* are found in the Mount Abu area.

H. longicorniculata has not been reported earlier from any part of Rajasthan (Shetty and Singh 1987, 1991, 1993). This is the first report of its occurrence in Mount Abu as well as from Rajasthan State, hence it is worth recording.

I thank R.G. Soni, Adl. PCCF and CWLW, U.M. Sahai, CF, M. K. Vijaivergia, Dy. CWLW, Fateh Singh Rathor, Range Forest Officer (WL) for facilities to conduct the biodiversity studies in Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary.

June 5, 2000

SATISH KUMAR SHARMA
*Range Forest Officer,
Phulwari Wildlife Sanctuary,
Kotra 307 025, District Udaipur,
Rajasthan, India.*

REFERENCES

MEHTA, M.R. (1979): Flora of Mount Abu. Ph.D. Thesis. University of Jodhpur, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

SHETTY, B.V. & V. SINGH (1987): Flora of Rajasthan Vol I. Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta. Pp. 1-452.

SHETTY, B.V. & V. SINGH (1991): Flora of Rajasthan Vol. II. Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta. Pp. 453-860.

SHETTY, B.V. & V. SINGH (1993): Flora of Rajasthan Vol. III. Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta. Pp. 861-1246.